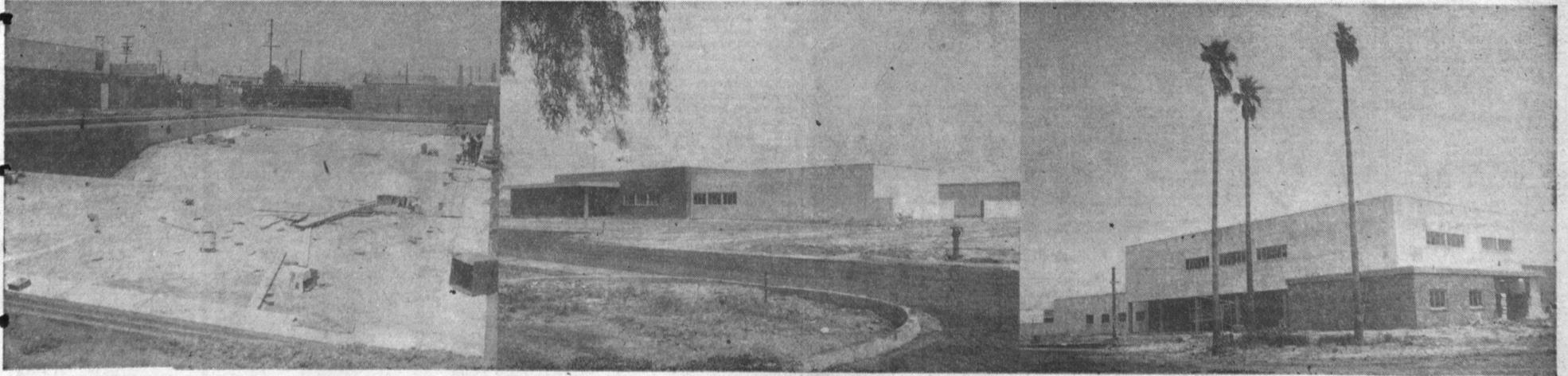


CIVIC CENTER ON SCHEDULE, WILL BE READY IN 34 DAYS



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VOL. VIII

THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1956 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

NO. 11

Burglars Caught Looting Local Industrial Plants

Two Alert Citizens Spot Thieves

Thieves went on a wild spree in Torrance last week specializing in such items as copper wire, magnesium ingots, business machines, and plain old cash.

However, some of the burglars got themselves perfectly tangled up with the law before they were through.

About \$1500 in copper wire was stolen from the National Electric Product corp., 2750 Lomita blvd., Torrance, Friday night. Booked' on suspicion of burglary was Ronald C. Fountain, 24, of 2384 S. Hawthorne blvd., according to Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton, of the Torrance Police Department.

Got Burned

Fountain was spotted burning the insulation off the wire at Main and Carson. The owner of the land took Fountain's license number as the suspect drove off and informed police.

Fountain was traced to his present address through a friend, Adolph Trujillo, 25, at whose home he had lived for a while.

Police found the rest of the wire in Trujillo's garage. Trujillo said he knew nothing of the theft and had been asked simply to keep the wire in storage for Fountain.

Trujillo is a professional fighter. Fountain has made a

(Turn to Page 23)

RABIES CLINIC ANNOUNCED HERE

Three clinics for giving shots against rabies will be set up in Torrance during the licensing period for dogs, Torrance city officials indicated this week.

The shots are being given in conformity with a new city and county law requiring that all dogs be vaccinated against rabies.

The shots, which will be good for two years, will cost \$1.50 and will be given under the auspices of the Southern California Veterinary Medical association.

Time and Place

Shots will be given from 7-9 p.m., as follows:

Thursday, July 12, El Retiro park, Pacific Coast highway and Vista del Parque; Thursday, July 19, Torrance park, Arlington north of Sepulveda; Thursday, July 26, McMaster park, 172nd street and Yukon.

Volunteers will be needed to help with the registering. Individuals or organizations who would be willing to help are asked to contact Frank Fallon of the South Bay Humane Society at FR. 2-8100.

Individuals who can show proof that their dogs have been vaccinated may renew dog licenses any time at the pound, or at the Torrance city hall.

L. A. County

Individuals living in Los Angeles county rather than in Torrance may obtain license application envelopes at sheriff stations, health centers, fire stations, justice courts, building

(Turn to Page 31)

COUNCIL BRIEFS

McDONALD TRACT: The council approved an ordinance involving the controversial rezoning of land for light manufacturing purposes at Carson and Crenshaw, following the inclusion of conditions not formerly included. Conditions include ornamental fences in front between alleys, remodeling of the old Ideco office building within six months, tearing down the factory building east of the office and erecting concrete wall fences. Court action against the city and three councilmen will probably be dropped.

COMMERCIAL ZONE DENIED: Because of strong residential protest, the council denied a request for the rezoning of the northeast corner of Arlington at 174th st. for commercial purposes. Petitions containing 125 signatures, spokesmen in the audience, and the NTCLA opposed the rezoning.

CHAMBER REQUEST: Gordon Lewis, speaking for unions generally, said the unions are opposed to having the city grant money to the Chamber of Commerce for advertising purposes.

(Turn to Page 31)

Mrs. Cook Dies After Child Birth

A 33-year-old mother of four died early Friday morning from child birth complications, four hours after giving birth to a baby boy who died shortly after birth.

Dead is Mrs. Esther Julia Cook, wife of Sgt. D. C. Cook, head of the Torrance Police Department's juvenile bureau.

Mrs. Cook succumbed at the Torrance Memorial hospital. Funeral services for Mrs. Cook and the infant were held Tuesday at Stone & Myers Mortuary chapel. Interment followed at the Inglewood Park cemetery, Rev. Leonard Babcock officiating.

Mrs. Cook lived with her family and her father-in-law, Frank Cook, at 2063 W. 233rd st. She was born in Harbor City from where she moved to Torrance.

Mrs. Cook is survived by four children, Diane, Douglas, Jerry, Sandra Sue and Debra Denise; and her mother, Mrs. Gussie Fleishner of 2423 W. 253rd st., Harbor City.

Other survivors are three sisters-in-law, Billie Serrano and Jackie Hodges of Los Angeles, and Mrs. Frank Johnson of Torrance, and two brothers-in-law, Merlin R. Cook and Don Cook, of Torrance.

4th of July Deadlines

Because of the Fourth of July holiday Wednesday, the following deadlines for news and advertising will hold true this coming week: editorial copy must be in by noon Monday and classified ads must be in by 5 p.m. Monday afternoon. The Torrance Press office will be closed Wednesday, July 4. The paper will be delivered Thursday, July 5.

Little League baseball has swept the country. Like any successful movement, it has made friends and enemies. It has become the subject of close scrutiny and a number of virtues and vices of the program have become apparent. For a discussion of the pros and cons, turn to page 17.



'MISS TORRANCE' CANDIDATES

Three more beauties have signed up for the 1956 'Miss Torrance' contest sponsored by the Torrance Area Youth Bands. They are (l-r) Marie Coleman, 17, 5202 Calle Mayor, student; Karen Burnell, 16, of 124 Via Sago, student; Jimmie Scott, 23, of 3618 West 181st st., model. Lynne Lehr, 20, was the first to sign up last week, bringing the total to four. Prospective entrants may call FA. 8-5273 and register with James Van Dyck, youth band director.

It's Gone, Gone, Gone!

Such a big service by such a little ad for so little money. That's the conclusion drawn by hundreds of happy Torrance Press classified advertisers.

Among them is Mrs. John Mitchell of 3409 W. 175th st., Torrance, who ran the following ad:

CLEAN comfortable room in new home. Home privileges. Near transportation. DA. 4-4410

"I had very good response to my ad," she stated. "If I feel that advertising in the Torrance Press is the only answer, I'll

call you again if I need you." Take Mrs. Mitchell's advice. Call us at FA 8-2345 and place your classified ad now!

Swimming Pool Lagging Behind

General contractors and city officials agreed unanimously this week that the new civic center will be signed, sealed and delivered within 34 days—in time for the spectacular two-day dedication ceremonies scheduled for August 11-12.

Mayor 'Sells' Pennsylvanian On Torrance

Torrance's mayor may not be able to spell "fluorescent" but he sure seems to have sales appeal.

That fact was established following his appearance on the Groucho Marx show last week.

A few days after the program, Mayor Albert Isen received a letter from Albert Reichstetter of Reading, Pennsylvania.

"I am planning to come to California and after hearing you on the Groucho Marx program, I feel Torrance would be a good location if I can obtain work."

Isen not only interested Reichstetter in coming here, he even interested Longren officials in considering him for a job.

"We're planning to move into the new civic center around August 1," City Manager George Stevens said. "We'll move in over the weekend in order not to disrupt services."

While both the city hall and police station are proceeding according to schedule, the swimming pool is lagging behind its original July 1 deadline.

"I'm not so optimistic about the pool," Stevens said. "It won't be ready by July 1 as originally anticipated. It will probably be ready some time in July."

Five More Weeks

There are about five weeks left to do the grading, fix the parking lots, install the sprinkling systems, and do some of the painting.

R. E. Payne, general contractor for the city hall and police station, was optimistic about completion plans.

Referring to the August 11-12 (Turn to Page 31)

Torrance Press Photo Contest Starts July 12

Starting July 12 the annual Torrance Press photo contest will get under way and individuals planning to enter the six-week contest are urged to get their pictures into shape now.

This year there will be two divisions instead of one in order to permit amateurs as well as semi-professionals to compete on their own level rather than with each other.

A total of \$140 of prizes will be given away, with first, second and third place winners to receive prizes in each division.

All individuals who submit photographs which are smaller than 8x10 will be classified as amateurs. All individuals who submit 8x10 photos or mounted photos will be considered in the semi-professional category (glossy 8x10's are preferable to mounted photos).

Again sponsoring the contest this year will be the Torrance Press; A-1 Photo Service, 1318 Sawtari; and Photo Arts Studio, 1311 Post.

Prizes in the amateur division (Turn to Page 31)

Decker, Head Of Realty Board, Dies

James L. Decker, 54, Lomita realtor and president of the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board, died in Long Beach June 24.

He was born in St. Paul, Minnesota and came to this area in 1943. He lived at 3658 238th st., Torrance.

Services were held at A. M. Gandy mortuary, Lomita, yesterday, with interment following at Forest Lawn, Rev. Robert Wells of the Narbonne Baptist church officiating.

Decker is survived by his wife, Irene; a son, James, Jr.; and his mother, Mrs. Margaret Decker of Long Beach.

NEW SHOPPING AREA VARIANCE GRANTED

The City Council's first move in what may eventually result in the development of a huge central shopping area smack in the middle of Torrance was made Tuesday night when the council approved a variance to permit a commercial center at Sepulveda and Hawthorne.

The variance, requested by the Del Amo Estates co., includes the area bounded by Sepulveda, Madrona, Carson (extension) and Hawthorne.

No plans were revealed at this time as to the type of development planned for this area.

The council's action confirms an earlier

story and map published by the Torrance Press indicating that this area may be used for development of a shopping center.

Possibility of rezoning the rest of the area up to Torrance blvd. (between Hawthorne and Madrona) for commercial purposes, except for the CCMO property, has also been studied by the Planning Commission.

Should that area ever be developed into a shopping center, there would be enough room for 10 major department stores, and about 200 smaller businesses, it has been estimated.

KILLER DRAWS LIFE

An 18-year-old youth who killed a man while robbing a filling station to support his dope habit was sentenced to life imprisonment Monday.

Donald Heien, of 11343 Hermes ave., Norwalk, was sentenced for the January 31 murder of Owen E. Douglas, of Los Angeles.

Heien was also arrested for the robbery and shooting of a Lomita service station manager in March. Heien's arrest followed the Lomita hold-up of Lowden M. Booth, 38, at 2301 Pacific Coast highway.

Booth was changing tires at the rear of the station when Heien hollered to him for change for a phone call.

As Booth made change, Heien pointed a gun at him exclaiming, "This is it."

When Booth asked, "What do you mean 'This is it?'" Heien allegedly said "Just this!"

Then he shot Booth in the right lower part of his chest, according to Lennox sheriffs.

Booth was taken to Torrance Memorial hospital. Heien was traced through a license number.

Superior Judge Charles W. Fricke did not invoke the death penalty for the Douglas murder because Heien was just a few months over 18 years old at the time he committed the crime.

IS LITTLE LEAGUE GOOD OR BAD?